Approved for Release: 2018/10/02 C06628110

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

CHANNELS

AGE COI ACP TOG TPR MRO DCI TOI

SCM 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

CLASSIFICATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

CIA/CI/WHSR 76-238

DATE-TIME GROUP CITE

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MICRO ONLY

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

3.5(c)

ITEM NO: 1 DATE: JUNE 18, 1976

SUBJECT: ARGENTINA: KILLING OF FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF

REF : AP, REUTER

THE KILLING OF FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF BRIG. GENERAL CESAREO CARDOSO YESTERDAY IS A SERIOUS BLOW TO POLICE AND SECURITY OFFICIALS, A NUMBER OF WHOM HAVE RECENTLY COME TO FEEL THEY WERE MAKING INROADS AGAINST THE LEFTIST TERRORISTS.

CARDOSO WAS KILLED BY A BOMB BLAST AS HE ENTERED HIS HOME; THREE FAMILY MEMBERS WITH HIM WERE INJURED. THE ASSASSINATION ALMOST CERTAINLY WAS THE WORK OF EITHER THE MONTONEROS OR PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY ARMY, ALTHOUGH NEITHER OF THE TWO PRINCIPAL LEFTIST TERRORIST GROUPS IS YET KNOWN TO HAVE CLAIMED CREDIT FOR

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER COORDINATING OFFICERS CI WHSR 76-238

CLASSIFICATION AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

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SOURCE REF:

IT. BOTH GROUPS HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN OPEN WARFARE WITH THE MILITARY AND POLICE FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

CARDOSO WAS THE FOURTH MILITARY MAN TO BE ATTACKED IN THE PAST WEEK. TWO OTHER OFFICERS WERE KILLED, AND A THIRD MANAGED TO DRIVE OFF HIS ASSAILANTS.

THE TERRORISTS' CAMPAIGN IS DESIGNED TO PROVOKE THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO TAKE HARSH COUNTERMEASURES THAT THE LEFTISTS HOPE WILL CAUSE THE PUBLIC TO REPUDIATE THE GOVERNMENT. INDEED, SOME HARDLINE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN PRESSING PRESIDENT VIDELA TO ABANDON HIS MODERATE APPROACH TO GOVERNING IN FAVOR OF RULE WITH AN IRON HAND. WHILE HE HAS RESISTED THIS ADVICE SO FAR, EACH TERRORIST ACT LENDS GREATER WEIGHT TO THE ARGUMENTS OF THE HARDLINERS.

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